

1   **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1       1. An actuator arm assembly for a disk drive, the actuator arm assembly being  
2       stamped from a single flat sheet of material and comprising:
  - 3        a first actuator arm portion defining a first latch portion;
  - 4        a second actuator arm portion defining a second latch portion configured to latch with the  
5       first latch portion, and
  - 6        an actuator arm-joining portion integrally joining the first actuator arm portion to the  
7       second actuator arm portion.
- 1       2. The actuator arm assembly of claim 1, wherein the actuator arm assembly is  
2       configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein the actuator arm-joining portion is configured  
3       to bend into an orientation that is substantially parallel to the pivot axis.
- 1       3. The actuator arm assembly of claim 1, wherein the actuator arm assembly is  
2       configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein the first latch portion is configured to bend  
3       into an orientation that is substantially parallel to the pivot axis.
- 1       4. The actuator arm assembly of claim 1, wherein the actuator arm assembly is  
2       configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein both the actuator arm-joining portion and the  
3       first latch portion are configured to bend into orientations that are substantially parallel to the  
4       pivot axis.
- 1       5. The actuator arm assembly of claim 1, wherein the first actuator arm portion  
2       includes a first surface defined by a thickness and a length of the first actuator arm portion and  
3       wherein the second actuator arm portion includes a second surface defined by a thickness and a  
4       length of the second actuator arm portion and wherein prior to bending, the first surface faces and  
5       is parallel to the second surface.

1       6. The actuator arm assembly of claim 1, wherein the first actuator arm portion  
2 defines a first surface that defines a first through bore, the second actuator arm portion defines a  
3 second surface that defines a second through bore that is configured to align with the first through  
4 bore.

1       7. The actuator arm assembly of claim 1, wherein the actuator arm-joining portion  
2 and the first latch portion are configured to bend such that a major surface of the first actuator  
3 arm portion faces and is substantially parallel to a major surface of the second actuator arm  
4 portion.

1        8. A head stack assembly for a disk drive, the head stack assembly comprising:  
2              an actuator arm assembly stamped from a single flat sheet of material and comprising:  
3                  a first actuator arm portion defining a first latch portion;  
4                  a second actuator arm portion defining a second latch portion configured to latch  
5              with the first latch portion;  
6                  an actuator arm-joining portion integrally joining the first actuator arm portion to  
7              the second actuator arm portion, and  
8              a first head gimbal assembly coupled to the actuator arm assembly.

1        9. The head stack assembly of claim 8, further including a second head gimbal  
2              assembly coupled to the second actuator arm portion.

1        10. The head stack assembly of claim 8, wherein the actuator arm assembly is  
2              configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein the actuator arm-joining portion is configured  
3              to bend into an orientation that is substantially parallel to the pivot axis.

1        11. The head stack assembly of claim 8, wherein the actuator arm assembly is  
2              configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein the first latch portion is configured to bend  
3              into an orientation that is substantially parallel to the pivot axis.

1        12. The head stack assembly of claim 8, wherein the actuator arm assembly is  
2              configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein both the actuator arm-joining portion and the  
3              first latch portion are configured to bend into orientations that are substantially parallel to the  
4              pivot axis.

1        13. The head stack assembly of claim 8, wherein the first actuator arm portion includes  
2              a first surface defined by a thickness and a length of the first actuator arm portion and wherein the  
3              second actuator arm portion includes a second surface defined by a thickness and a length of the

4 second actuator arm portion and wherein prior to bending, the first surface faces and is parallel to  
5 the second surface.

1 14. The head stack assembly of claim 8, wherein the first actuator arm portion defines  
2 a first surface that defines a first through bore, the second actuator arm portion defines a second  
3 surface that defines a second through bore that is configured to align with the first through bore.

- 1        15. A disk drive, comprising:
  - 2            a disk;
  - 3            a head stack assembly for reading and writing to the disk, the head stack assembly
  - 4            comprising:
    - 5              an actuator arm assembly stamped from a single flat sheet of material and comprising:
      - 6                a first actuator arm portion defining a first latch portion;
      - 7                a second actuator arm portion defining a second latch portion configured to latch
      - 8                with the first latch portion;
      - 9                an actuator arm-joining portion integrally joining the first actuator arm portion to
      - 10              the second actuator arm portion, and
      - 11              a first head gimbal assembly coupled to the actuator arm assembly.
- 1        16. The disk drive of claim 15, further including a second head gimbal assembly
- 2        coupled to the second actuator arm portion.
- 1        17. The disk drive of claim 15, wherein the actuator arm assembly is configured to
- 2        pivot about a pivot axis and wherein the actuator arm-joining portion is configured to bend into
- 3        an orientation that is substantially parallel to the pivot axis.
- 1        18. The disk drive of claim 15, wherein the actuator arm assembly is configured to
- 2        pivot about a pivot axis and wherein the first latch portion is configured to bend into an
- 3        orientation that is substantially parallel to the pivot axis.
- 1        19. The disk drive of claim 15, wherein the actuator arm assembly is configured to
- 2        pivot about a pivot axis and wherein both the actuator arm-joining portion and the first latch
- 3        portion are configured to bend into orientations that are substantially parallel to the pivot axis.
- 1        20. The disk drive of claim 15, wherein the first actuator arm portion includes a first
- 2        surface defined by a thickness and a length of the first actuator arm portion and wherein the

3 second actuator arm portion includes a second surface defined by a thickness and a length of the  
4 second actuator arm portion and wherein prior to bending, the first surface faces and is parallel to  
5 the second surface.

1        21. The disk drive of claim 15, wherein the first actuator arm portion defines a first  
2 surface that defines a first through bore, the second actuator arm portion defines a second surface  
3 that defines a second through bore that is configured to align with the first through bore.

1           22. A method of making an actuator arm assembly for a disk drive, comprising the  
2 steps of:

3           providing a flat sheet of material;

4           stamping the actuator arm assembly from the provided sheet of material such that the  
5 stamped arm assembly includes:

6           a first actuator arm portion defining a first latch portion;

7           a second actuator arm portion defining a second latch portion configured to latch  
8 with the first latch portion, and

9           an actuator arm-joining portion integrally joining the first actuator arm portion to  
10 the second actuator arm portion.

1           23. The method of claim 22, further including a step of bending the actuator arm-  
2 joining portion such that a major surface of the first actuator arm portion faces and is substantially  
3 parallel to a major surface of the second actuator arm portion.

1           24. The method of claim 22, further including a step of bending the first latch portion  
2 such that the first latch portion latches with the second latch portion.

1           25. The method of claim 22, wherein the stamping step creates a first through bore in  
2 the first actuator arm portion and a second through bore in the second actuator arm portion.

1           26. The method of claim 25, wherein after the bending step, the first through bore is  
2 configured to align with the second through bore and wherein the method further includes a step  
3 of fitting a collar within the first and second through bores to stiffen the actuator arm assembly.